



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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FANS DON'T LET FANS DRIVE DRUNK

Pass Your Keys to a Designated Driver This Super Bowl Sunday

RALEIGH — The Governor's Highway Safety Program announced today that they are joining forces with the National Football League, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and state and local law enforcement to remind everyone to act responsibly by designating a sober driver if they plan to use alcohol this Super Bowl weekend.

"We want to remind everyone this weekend that real *Fans Don't Let Fans Drive Drunk*," said Darrell Jernigan, director of GHSP. "If you plan on using alcohol while cheering your team on to victory, pass your keys to a sober, designated driver before the Super Bowl party begins. We want everyone to make the right play for the big game."

Super Bowl Sunday is one of America's biggest and most entertaining national sporting events as friends and families gather to socialize and watch the big game. Yet, it is also one of the nation's most dangerous days on the roadways due to impaired driving.

According to NHTSA, 158 people died nationwide due to impaired driving during the 2004 Super Bowl weekend. In North Carolina there were three fatal crashes during Super Bowl weekend due to impaired driving.

State and local law enforcement officers across the state will be holding random checkpoints this weekend. GHSP offers the following tips for hosting and attending a Super Bowl celebration:

If you are hosting a Super Bowl party:

- Remember, you can be held liable and prosecuted if someone you served ends up in an impaired driving crash.
- Make sure all of your guests designate their sober drivers in advance, or help arrange ride-sharing with other sober drivers.
- Serve lots of food and include lots of non-alcoholic beverages at the party.
- Keep the numbers for local cab companies handy, and take the keys away from anyone who is thinking of driving while impaired.

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If you are attending a Super Bowl party or watching at a sports bar or restaurant:

- Avoid drinking too much alcohol too fast. Pace yourself and eat enough food, take breaks and alternate with non-alcoholic drinks.
- Designate your sober driver before the party begins and give that person your car keys.
- If you do not have a designated driver, ask a sober friend for a ride home; call a cab, friend or family member to come and get you.
- Never let a friend leave your sight if you think they are about to drive while impaired. Remember, *Fans Don't Let Fans Drive Drunk*.
- Always buckle up – it is still your best defense against other impaired drivers.

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